

**Appropriations Committee**  
**Testimony of Barbara Rockwell in support of funding for Legal Services**  
**February 19, 2014**

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My Name is Barbara Rockwell. I am a survivor of domestic abuse. I was referred to Connecticut Legal Services by Prudence Crandall Center my local domestic violence shelter. Martin Wheeler became my attorney at Connecticut Legal Services. Connecticut Legal Services represented me free of charge because I could not afford to hire a private attorney. I was able to share in detail with Martin Wheeler the history of the abuse I had suffered from my husband. Martin handled all the communications with my ex-husband's attorney. Martin worked tirelessly on my behalf. Martin was able to work out a settlement that was fair to me. Because of Connecticut Legal Services I am now able to continue my life as a happy woman. Please continue to support these services for all the abused women of Connecticut. Please give these women a chance to have a happy life without having to live in fear and hopelessness. Thank you for allowing me to speak to you who represent all the women of this wonderful state.

Barbara Rockwell